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made long excursions easy. The wanderings cover an area of about 2000 miles from north to south and 1000 from east to west.

The illustrations are numerous and well chosen, and the work is presented in the excellent form characteristic of the publications of the Bureau of American Ethnology. We regret we cannot speak so well of the binding. Handled with care, the book fell to pieces while we were reading it.

WASHINGTON MATTHEWS.

String and other Forms of Strand ; Basketry-, Woven bag-, and Net-work.

By WALTER E. ROTH, B.A., etc., the Northern Protector of Aborigines, Queensland. North Queensland Ethnography : Bulletin No. 1. Queensland : January, 1901. 15 pp., 19 pl., 4°.

This is a thorough study, in textiles, of savagery, the people being the aborigines of North Queensland, Australia. The materials used are animal and vegetal—the former being human, opossum, and kangaroo hair ; and tendon from kangaroo tail, snake neck, and emu leg. A list of forty-four plants is given, and in each case a careful statement is made concerning the part employed and the technic. The steps in the manufacture of twine, string, chain-work, knotting, plaiting, fringing, winding, joining, lacing, and border-work are clearly described and graphically illustrated by drawings. The Australian twine makers, especially from human hair, put themselves to greater trouble than do the Amerindians. The spindle consists of three parts, the shank, the fluke (seized to the former by wrapping), and the spindle-string, which performs the double function of holding shank and fluke together, and its free end, double, serves as a vise to grip the hair until the twisting is started. This spindle is used not only in strand twisting, but in twining strands afterward. Mr Roth's own classification of basket-work, bag-work, and net-work is as follows :

(A) Made with one continuous strand :

Basal strand, straight.

I "Simple loop" pattern.

II "Loop and twist" pattern.

III "Hourglass" pattern.

IV "Netting stitch" pattern.

Basal strand, circular.

I "Simple loop" pattern.

II "Netting stitch" pattern.

(B) Made with two continuous strands :

No Basal Strand. "Simple loop" pattern.

One Basal Strand, Circular. "Simple loop" pattern.

Several Basal Strands, Straight. "Chain twist," "Warp and Weft."

(c) Made with One Continuous and One Noncontinuous Strand.

(d) Made with One Noncontinuous Strand.

The author finds the same difficulty as students of Amerindian textiles in separating, for analysis, basketry from bagging, netting, and matting.

Checkerwork, diagonal plaiting, and twined work are to be seen in the plates, but far the greater number of processes are those which remind one of the netted carrying-frames of the Lower Colorado, of Mexico, and especially of Central America. The most startling similarity to Amerindian ware is that between Mr Roth's plate xiv, of dilly-bags belonging to the coastal districts of north Queensland, and the fish-baskets of the Fuegians at the Straits of Magellan. Other similarities to Amerindian work suggest themselves, but drawings would be needed to make them plain. The Home Secretary's Department, Brisbane, has our hearty thanks for the liberal spirit which it has shown to a brother ethnologist on the other side of the world.

O. T. MASON.

Peru: A History of Coca. By W. GOLDEN MORTIMER, M.D. New York: J. H. Vail & Co., 1901.

Under the above title Dr Mortimer has written a book of real scientific value in an unusually attractive style. The principal object of the work is to call attention to the remarkable properties of the "divine plant of the Incas," in order that the world at large may share in the benefits which the native peoples of Peru and neighboring countries have long derived and continue to derive from its use. In furtherance of this object, evidence is produced of the very real and extensive nature of those benefits, and the properties of the plant are carefully distinguished not only from those of the beverage cocoa, made from the roasted seeds of a species of palm, and from the cocoanut, but also from the anesthetic properties of cocaine, an alkaloid of the plant. The very common confusion of coca with these three substances is shown to have formed a barrier to the recognition of its merits. The best conditions and methods of cultivation and the various medicinal uses of the plant are carefully described. The history of coca seems to show that it has been an important element in the advancement of the Peruvian peoples, and it is here that the work becomes of more specific interest to the anthropologist.

In addition to its physical uses, coca played a prominent part in the